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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/635,373	08/09/2000	Christopher R. King	068070.0102	5513

7590 09/18/2003  
Baker Botts LLP  
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EXAMINER

LIN, WEN TAI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 09/18/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/635,373

Applicant(s)

KING ET AL.

Examiner

Wen-Tai Lin

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 19-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-31 are presented for examination.
2. Claims 2-3, 14, 23-24 and 27 are objected to because the following terms lack antecedent basis:

In claims 2-3, "the customizable browser";

In claim 14, "the uniform resource locator";

In claim 23, "the statistics enabled url"; and

In claim 27, "the sponsor".

3. Claims 12-24 are objected to because of the following issues/informalities:

(i) As to claim 12, it is not clear what's the relationship between the third page and the first and the second pages [i.e., having a link associated with the first or the second pages?].

(ii) As to claim 19, it is not clear what's the relationship between the fourth page and the first, the second, and the third pages [i.e., having a link associated with the first or the second pages? In particular, since the third page has being prohibited in the parent claim (i.e., the third page has never been rendered), it is not clear what's the sequential order of the third and fourth pages?]

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 6 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schumacher[U.S. Pat. No. 6567843].

6. As to claim 1, Schumacher teaches the invention as claimed including: a directed web browsing system comprising:

- a customizable director, the customizable director [e.g., a bookmark] operable to provide web browsing capabilities [Abstract] and comprising:
- a border portion having a forward element, a play element and a back element [note that all browsers have these three border elements];
- a display portion operable to display a first web page, the first web page having a link, the link having an associated second web page [note that all browsers have a display portion that start with a first web page having a plurality of links to another web pages];

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- an exclusive set of first web pages associated with the customizable director [e.g., each website in the customizable bookmark is always associated with a webpage] and wherein a user associated with the customizable director is required to retrieve at least one of the first web pages prior to retrieving a second web page distinct from the first web pages [i.e., the linked web pages are accessed after the linking pages are accessed (via the bookmark process)]; and
- a cycle time associated with at least one of the first web pages [Walker: Abstract, lines 9-14; col.1, lines 31-36].

7. As to claim 2, Schumacher further teaches that the customizable browser further comprises a timer module operable to determine the expiration of the cycle time associated with the first web pages and generated an indication when the cycle time has expired [col.4, lines 1-8].

8. As to claim 3, Schumacher further teaches that the customizable browser further comprises a unique identifier and wherein the first web pages have an associated uniform resource locator [e.g., each website in the bookmark is represented by a URL].

9. As to claims 6 and 10, since the features of these claims can also be found in claims 1, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 1 above.

10. As to claim 11, Schumacher further teaches displaying the third web page comprises:

- loading the third web page in response to the indication that the cycle time has elapsed; and formatting the third web page based on hypertext markup language tags associated with the first web page [Fig.4].

11. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nobakht et al.[U.S. Pat. No. 6587873].

12. As to claim 31, Nobakht teaches a channel server [110, Fig.4] or directed web browsing comprising:

- an identifier module [720, 730, Fig.7];
- an identifier database operable to communicate with the identifier module and storing at least one identifier and a subscriber database operable to communicate with the identifier module and associating at least one of the identifiers with at least one channel [Fig.5(B)];
- a channel module operable to communicate with the identifier module and distribute content to the subscribers associated with the channels based on the channel and a distribution module operable to communicate with the identifier module and retrieve content generated by a user associated with a director [Fig.6]; and

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- an electronic mail module operable to communicate with the identifier module and communicate anonymous electronic mail between directors [col.8, lines 41-48; col.9, lines 52-58].

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumacher [U.S. Pat. No. 6567843], as applied to claims 1-3, 6 and 10-11 above, further in view of Nobakht et al. (hereafter "Nobakht") [U.S. Pat. No. 6587873].

15. As to claim 4, Schumacher does not specifically teach that the border portion further comprises at least one channel button operable to select a category of content from a channel server.

However, Nobakht teaches a channel-based system server for providing a list of websites that a user may download and browse selected contents.

In view of Nobakht's teaching, it is obvious that the user of Schumacher's browser may include the channel server's website into one of the border buttons (such

as "bookmark" in Fig.2) and make Nobakht's channel-based websites available when so requested, because Schumacher's bookmark is capable of organizing a set of user-selected favorite websites including the home page of a channel server].

16. Claim 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumacher [U.S. Pat. No. 6567843], as applied to claims 1-4, 6 and 10-11 above.

17. As to claim 5, Schumacher does not specifically teach that the method further comprising a filter module operable to modify the second web page in response to selecting the link based on site criteria associated with the customizable director.

However, under the notion of parental control or pay-for-view in web browsing, it is well known that when an unauthorized page is attempted, the browser is redirected to an alternative page containing a warning message (i.e., linking to a "modified" second web page).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Schumacher's browsing system be provided with such function, because by doing so it may give the user a forewarning message so that appropriate actions may be taken following the messages.

18. Claims 7-9, 12-14, 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumacher [U.S. Pat. No. 6567843], as applied to claims 1-6 and



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10-11 above, further in view of Walker et al. (hereafter "Walker") [U.S. Pat. No. 6286001].

19. As to claim 7, Schumacher does not specifically teach that the method further comprising filtering the second web page in response to the selection of the first link based on site criteria associated with the web browser.

However, Walker teaches that a browser system can be adapted to giving parent control over what websites are allowable for a child [Abstract].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Walker's parental control feature in Schumacher's browser, because prohibiting the minors from browsing unhealthy web pages is a common desire among the responsible parents.

20. As to claim 8, Walker further teaches that filtering the second web page comprises:

- comparing at least one second link associated with the second web page to at least one forbidden site associated with the site criteria; and removing second links which match at least a portion of any of the forbidden sites associated with the site criteria [710, Fig.7; col.12, lines 55-67].

21. As to claims 22-24, Schumacher and Walker do not specifically teach measuring network performance, such as the latency, between the director (i.e., the browser) and a remote site and pass this information to a channel server.

However, measuring communication delay between two network nodes is a well-known art. Since Schumacher and Walker's system is targeted at remote data accessing including real-time data presentation (such as audio and video programs), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply a well-known communication delay measurement method for determining the delay between the client and the remote information source, because the channel server, which functions as a real-time data distributor, would require the delay information in order to allocate necessary network resources to satisfy the need.

22. As to claims 25 and 29, Schumacher and Walker teach substantially as claimed including those limitations disclosed in claims 1 and 12. Schumacher and Walker do not specifically teach providing a graphical user interface for displaying a folder, which is installed along with the graphical user interface, and an icon associated with a director so as to facilitate a user interacting with the associated director.

However, Schumacher teaches that the director-controlled web server uses an interface to transfer responses to the participating browsers [col.3, lines 23-31], while each of the browsers (including the Microsoft Explorer) obviously has a graphical user interface for displaying a folder (e.g., those contained in the bookmark) and/or file icons listed within the folder (e.g., under Microsoft's Windows system). As such, it is obvious

that Schumacher and Walker's system as modified could have similar graphical interface to facilitate a user's interaction with the director, because such graphical interface simplifies the user interaction.

23. As to claims 26-28 and 30, Schumacher and Walker do not specifically teach that the first web pages comprise information associated with a sponsor, which includes a corporation, and at least one of the second web pages comprises advertising information associated with the sponsor, wherein the director associated icon comprises an online banking icon.

However, these additional features are all well known in the art. For example, it is obvious that each of Schumacher and Walker's pre-selected websites (e.g., the websites shown at 322, Fig.3) can be associated with a corporation sponsor, with its following pages (i.e., second web pages) containing the company's services/products, and one of the websites could be connected to on-line banking application, because Schumacher and Walker's system is designed to provided topical/commercial information and the above listed features are options of such applications.

24. As to claims 9, 12-14 and 19-21, since the features of these claims can also be found in claims 6-8, 10-11 and 22-30, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 6-8, 10-11 and 22-30 above.

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25. Claims 15-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

26. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Shuster [U.S. Pat. No. 6389458];

Richardson et al. [U.S. Pat. No. 5809247];

Greer et al. [U.S. Pat. No. 6009429];

Manohar et al. [U.S. Pat. No. 6572662]; and

Borman et al. [U.S. Pat. No. 6226655].

27. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in ABANDONMENT of the application (see 35 U.S.C. 133, M.P.E.P. 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen-Tai Lin whose telephone number is (703)305-4875. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday(8:00-5:00) .

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (703)305-9678. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)746-7239 for official communications;


(703)746-7238 for after final communications; and

(703)746-5516 for status inquires draft communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Wen-Tai Lin

September 9, 2003

  
9/9/03